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SCIENCE

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THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NATURALISTS SYMPOSIUM ON THE SCOPE OF BIOLOGICAL TEACHING IN RELATION TO NEW FIELDS OF DISCOVERY FROM THE STANDPOINT OF A ZOOLOGIST

THE speaker must admit that upon taking time to reflect on the various ramifications of the subject announced his first reaction was one of wonder at himself for ever having agreed to enter into such a discussion; for obviously any statement must be the expression of a personal opinion influenced largely by the advocate's own training and the conditions which obtain in his local institution.

Upon roll-call one finds oneself confronted by such lusty newcomers as: ecology, animal behavior, comparative and general physiology, biochemistry, cytology, genetics, biometry, which, however, is really a method of work and not a special field of investigation; experimental zoology, a sort of general mélange which also includes some of the more special fields enumerated; experimental embryology, a subject inextricably interwoven with experimental cytology and which in recent times has sported a new offshoot—tissue-culture in vitro—already almost an ology in itself; not to omit such important applied subjects as parasitology, protozoology and the application of biological principles to human problems.

How much are we justified in letting these replace our traditional general zoology, invertebrate zoology, comparative anatomy of the vertebrates, histology and embryology? One realizes vividly the just merits of the new claimants, but when he faces the problem of deciding as to which